

I claim:

1. A method for determining the presence of HIV antibodies (anti-HIV) on an unknown test sample, said test method being composed of a buffer, antibody or antigen or indicator that produces a detectable response or a change in the absorbance or intensity of a color or line in the UV or visible spectrum in the presence or absence of anti-HIV.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the antibody or antigen to anti-HIV can be selected from the group consisting of anti-HIV (I or II), anti-anti-HIV, HIV antigens (I or II), recombinant HIV antigens, HIV aptamers, anti-Human IgG, IgA, IgD, IgE, or IgM.

3. The method according to claim 1 in which the buffer can be selected from the following group consisting of citrate, hepes, tris (trizma), taps, popso, tes, pipes, mopso, tricine, mops, mes, bicine, bes, caps, epps, dipso, ches, capso, ampso, aces, ada, bis-tris-propane, tapso, heppso, tea, amp, phosphate, phthalate, succinate, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, acetic acid, sodium hydroxide, and potassium hydroxide.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the test sample can be any biological fluid from the following group: urine, serum, whole blood, saliva, cerebral spinal fluid, gastric contents, and extracts of hair or sweat.

5. A method according to claim 1 employing an aqueous liquid reagent for measuring the concentration of anti-HIV on a test specimen, said test method comprising the steps of ;

(a) placing the reagent in the reagent compartment of the chemistry autoanalyzer,

(b) aliquoting samples, calibrators, and controls into sample cups and placing them on the chemistry autoanalyzer,

(c) transferring an aliquot of each sample, calibrator, and control into

single, discrete cuvettes mounted within the chemistry autoanalyzer,

(d) aliquoting a specified volume of the reagent composition into each cuvette and mixing,

(e) incubating the reaction mixture for a specified time interval,

(f) measuring and recording absorbance values of the reaction mixtures with the chemistry autoanalyzer's spectrophotometer at the specified wavelength (from 340 to 800 nm) at preprogrammed time intervals,

(g) and comparing absorbance values of samples and controls to those of the calibrators in the form of a standard curve thereby quantitating the amount of anti-HIV present.

~~6. A method according to the method of claim 1 employing a dry chemistry test strip (DCD) method to measure the anti-HIV concentration in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of ;~~

~~(a) preparing a test means by successively impregnating an absorbent carrier matrix with reagent solutions,~~

~~(b) drying said test means,~~

~~(c) dipping completed test means into test sample,~~

~~(d) and determining the quantity of anti-HIV present in said test sample by comparing the relative intensity of the color produced by the reaction to a color chart with color blocks referenced to specific concentrations of anti-HIV.~~

7. A method according to Claim 1 employing a dry chemistry lateral flow device (LFD) for measuring the anti-HIV concentration in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of ;

(a) preparing a test means by successively impregnating a solid, absorbent carrier matrix with liquid reagent solutions at specific locations on said test means,

(b) drying said test means,

(d) and determining the quantity of anti-HIV present in said test sample by comparing the relative intensity of the assay line produced by the reaction to a standard chart, or by comparing the relative intensity of the assay line produced by the reaction to the control line.

~~8. The method according to claim 5 wherein the spectrophotometric wavelength employed is from 340 to 800 nm.~~

9. The method according to claim 1 for determining the anti-HIV concentration of a test sample wherein creatinine, cystatin C, or specific gravity concentration can be used to normalize the sample for accurate determination of anti-HIV.

10. The method according to claim 9 wherein the calculation to normalize the anti-HIV concentration requires that it be divided by the creatinine, cystatin C, or specific gravity concentration of the same test sample thereby yielding the anti-HIV to creatinine, cystatin C, or specific gravity ratio.

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